KSHS NEWSLETTER

Year 7 students pictured on their first day at King Solomon High School

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to the first newsletter of the new academic year.

Published fortnightly, our newsletter provides an opportunity to share some of the exciting things happening across the school, celebrate the achievements of our students both in and outside of school, and highlight the many opportunities available to them, including clubs, trips, enrichment activities and experiences that complement their learning.

It has certainly been a busy and exciting first few weeks at King Solomon. In this edition, we celebrate the arrival of our new Year 7 students and their first experiences of secondary school, including our Year 7 Welcome Evening. We also reflect on a range of Kehila activities and our Rosh Hashanah celebrations, including Tashlich and our lunchtime activities.

We are delighted to celebrate the achievements of our students, including those recognised for their outstanding reward points and our Year 10 students who completed the Alan Senitt Upstanders Leadership Programme. We also share highlights from our Year 6 Taster Day, alongside updates from our Performing Arts Department, including music and drama tuition and auditions for this year's production of *Newsies Jr.*

Finally, we highlight the fantastic range of extra-curricular clubs available this term, as well as other opportunities for students to get involved, develop their interests and make the most of life beyond the classroom.

A particular welcome goes to our new Year 7 families. We hope your children are settling in well, finding their feet and, most importantly, beginning to enjoy life at their new secondary school. We have loved seeing them become part of the King Solomon community and look forward to watching them grow, learn and thrive during their time with us.

As we approach Yom Kippur, we wish all our families observing the day a G'mar Chatimah Tovah - may you have a meaningful fast and a good final sealing in the Book of Life. Tzom Kal to all those fasting, and we hope you have an easy and meaningful fast.

A reminder that school will be closed on Monday 21st September for Yom Kippur and will reopen as normal on Tuesday 22nd September.

We hope you enjoy reading this edition and getting a flavour of the many wonderful things taking place across our school community. We look forward to sharing many more achievements, opportunities and highlights with you throughout the year.

Open Evening

On Tuesday 6th October, we will be hosting our Open Evening for families considering a place at King Solomon High School for Year 7, 2027 admissions.

Please share details of the evening with friends, family and members of our wider community who have children currently in Year 6 and are deciding which secondary school to choose for September.

We would love to welcome as many families as possible, giving prospective students and their parents and carers the opportunity to visit our school, meet our staff and students, experience our facilities and discover all that our wonderful community school has to offer.

If you know a family who may be interested, please forward them the following link: **Open Evening**

For further information, families can contact our Admissions Team at **admissions@kshsonline.uk**.

Top Achievers - Reward Points

Congratulations to the students who achieved the highest number of reward points over the last two weeks, and to those who currently hold the highest cumulative total of reward points in each year group. Their consistent hard work, positive attitude, and dedication to both academics and school values have been recognised by staff.

The students who achieved the most reward points over the past two weeks are:

Student	Form
Diya Sood	11Z
Phoebe Harrison	10P
Josie Trainer	10P

The students with the highest reward points in each year group are:

Student	Form
Róisín Smith	7M
David Lisnic	8P
Vivaan Vyas	9P
Phoebe Harrison	10P
Diya Sood	11Z

Róisín Smith 7P

David Lisnic 8P

Vivaan Vyas 9P

Phoebe Harrison 10P

Josie Trainer 10P

Diya Sood 11Z

Welcome to our new Year 7 - Class of 2026!

On Thursday 3rd September, we were delighted to welcome our brand-new Year 7 students as they began their King Solomon High School journey.

Their first day was packed with activities, opportunities to make new friends and plenty of excitement. The day began with an assembly where students met their new Form Tutors, Miss Mehta and Miss Ramsay, as well as their Head of Year, Mrs Worthing. They also met Rabbi Sufrin, who spoke poignantly about the ethos and values of our school and, in keeping with tradition, blew the shofar.

There was, of course, some essential housekeeping to take care of too! Students had their photographs and fingerprints taken so they could access our school systems, as well as completing their English and Maths assessments. There was also plenty of time throughout the day to get to know one another and socialise with their new classmates during break and lunchtime.

The day concluded with a high-octane treasure hunt, designed to test the students' knowledge of the school site. Armed with their trusty maps, students worked independently or in small groups, navigating their way around the building, solving puzzles and following clues.

There were smiles all round as we brought the day to a close and waved our new Year 7 students off after what was a brilliant first day. We are delighted to welcome the Class of 2026 to King Solomon High School and look forward to all that the year ahead will bring!

First Day of School
Year 7
Learning · Charity · Community

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Shacharit Returns for the New Academic Year

On Tuesday 8th September, Rabbi Sufrin and Brian Mitchell joined us for our first Shacharit of the new academic year. Shacharit is the Jewish morning prayer service which provides an opportunity for our students to come together in prayer, reflection and community at the start of the school day.

A Meaningful Milestone for Eden

A huge Mazel Tov to Year 8 student **Eden Birt**, who put on tefillin for the first time at school.

This is a significant milestone in a young Jewish boy's life and an important step in his Jewish journey. We were delighted to share in this special occasion with Eden and celebrate this meaningful moment with him.

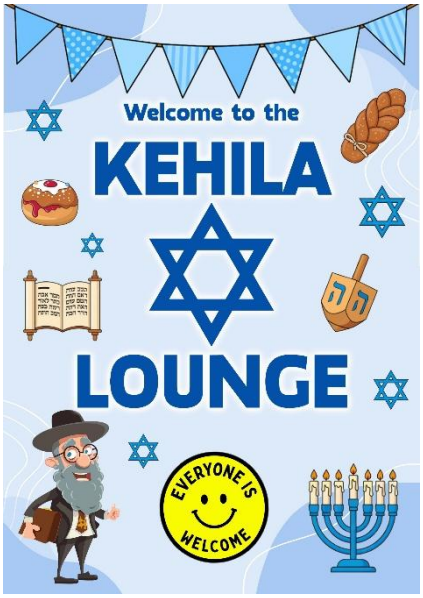
First Time in the Kehila Lounge for Year 7

Tuesday also saw the return of the popular Kehila Club, with Year 7 students enjoying their first visit to the Kehila Lounge. Open to all Year 7 students, the club offers a great opportunity to relax, have fun and spend time with friends.

Students enjoyed a range of activities, including arts and crafts, board games, pool and darts. It was fantastic to see so many students getting involved and having a great time!

For those who aren't yet familiar with it, the Kehila Lounge is in Room 004, at the end of the JS corridor.

Keep an eye out for future Kehila club and event announcements on Teams and in our next newsletter.



Rosh Hashanah

Tashlich

On Monday 14th September, as part of our celebration of Rosh Hashanah and the Ten Days of Repentance leading up to Yom Kippur, over 50 students had the opportunity to take part in Tashlich, a traditional custom observed during the High Holy Days.

Tashlich, meaning “casting away,” is a time for reflection and renewal. Traditionally, people gather beside a natural body of water and symbolically cast away the mistakes and shortcomings of the past year, while looking ahead and making a commitment to positive change.

Accompanied by Mr Walmer, Mrs Spurling, Mrs Marks and Ms Shepherd, our students walked to Fairlop Waters, where they took time to reflect on what they would like to leave behind and what they hope to carry with them into the year ahead.

To mark this reflection, students threw stones into the lake, symbolising the things they wished to let go of and their commitment to growth, change and making a fresh start.

It was a meaningful opportunity for our students to pause, reflect and look ahead as we enter the new year and prepare for Yom Kippur.

Rosh Hashanah Activities

Also on Monday 14th September, as part of our Rosh Hashanah celebrations, students enjoyed a fantastic range of games, activities and treats at break and lunchtime, organised by Mrs Spurling and the Kehila Department.

At breaktime, students enjoyed traditional apples and honey, along with delicious honey cake, reflecting the wish for a sweet and happy new year.

Lunchtime brought plenty of fun, with students throwing “apples” into the “honeypot” and taking part in a pomegranate seed guessing game. There were prizes to be won in both activities, adding to the excitement.

There was also an opportunity for reflection as students wrote down something they were sorry for and watched their message dissolve in a barrel of water, a meaningful reminder of reflection, forgiveness and making positive changes.

With brilliant Israeli music providing the soundtrack, there was a wonderful atmosphere as students came together to celebrate Rosh Hashanah and the start of the new year!

Events

Year 7 Welcome Evening

On Monday evening, 14th September, we welcomed our new Year 7 families to our Year 7 Welcome Evening.

Families who attended had the opportunity to hear from our Headteacher, Mr Harris, members of the Senior Leadership Team, Heads of Department and our Head of Year 7, Mrs Worthing. The evening provided families with useful information about school life, structures and routines, as well as the wide range of opportunities available to our students.

We also shared information about our tuition opportunities, reading programme, and provided guidance and practical tips to support students with revision and their learning at home.

We would like to thank all the families who were able to attend. We hope the evening was both informative and enjoyable, and that it provided valuable support as our new Year 7 students settle into life at the school.

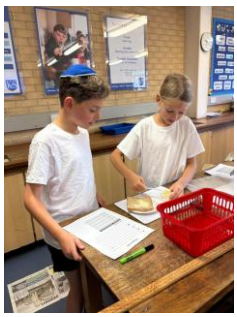
Year 6 Taster Day

On Tuesday 15th September, we were thrilled to welcome students from Wohl Ilford Jewish Primary School as we hosted a Year 6 Taster Day.

It was a fantastic opportunity for Year 6 students to experience life at King Solomon, explore our facilities and get a taste of what secondary school has to offer. Throughout the morning, they took part in a range of exciting and engaging lessons, giving them the chance to experience some of the subjects and activities they can look forward to as they progress into Year 7.

The morning began in our science labs, where students tested their hypotheses to investigate whether Murphy's Law really was in motion when buttered bread was dropped onto the floor! They then got creative in Art, drawing and decorating leaves using a variety of materials before combining their creations to make a colourful autumn collage. After a quick break, it was time to get active in PE, where students worked together in teams to develop their teamwork, communication and sporting skills. Students finished the morning in our Modern Languages Department, where they had fun learning some new Spanish vocabulary, including words for different colours and items of clothing.

It was a pleasure to welcome the students to King Solomon, and we hope they enjoyed their morning with us as much as we enjoyed hosting them. We look forward to hopefully welcoming many of them back next September as KS students!



Alan Senitt Upstanders Leadership Programme (ASULP)

Congratulations to Our Upstanders!

We are incredibly proud of our Year 10 students who have successfully completed the Alan Senitt Upstanders Leadership Programme (ASULP) - a community leadership programme bringing together students from different faiths, cultures and backgrounds.

Throughout the programme, students took part in a series of workshops, seminars and school-based sessions, where they learned from participants from other schools, explored different cultures and perspectives, and developed valuable skills in leadership, teamwork, communication, presentation and event planning. They also explored important issues surrounding discrimination and injustice.

Our students then put their learning into action by working together as a school group to devise their own community project, focused on raising awareness of violence against women and girls. They took an issue they felt passionate about and developed their own ideas into a meaningful project designed to raise awareness within the wider community.

On Tuesday evening (15th September), students celebrated their achievements at a special graduation ceremony at Maccabi GB in Kenton, alongside fellow participants from across the programme. They presented their community project to parents, co-leaders and invited guests, and reflected on their experiences, the challenges they had faced and what they had learned.

ASULP has been a fantastic opportunity for our students to step outside their comfort zones, build self-confidence and develop the courage to challenge injustices they see around them. We have been hugely impressed by their commitment, maturity and willingness to listen, collaborate and make a positive difference.

Congratulations to **Llara Adebajo Martinez, Zaira Adebajo-Martínez, Fathi Hassan, Arsela Madana, Maria Najam, Zarshala Qureshi, Brodie Schiffman** and **Daniel Szybiak**, who presented at the ceremony. We also congratulate **Michael Puskas, Holly Saliba, Lara Sarikaya** and **Hannah Scarry**, who successfully completed the programme but were unable to attend the ceremony.

You are all true Upstanders! We are incredibly proud of everything you have achieved and the positive contribution you are already making to your community.

Performing Arts

Tuition

At King Solomon, we offer a wide range of music, public speaking and drama tuition, delivered by highly experienced tutors who support students in achieving outstanding results in their chosen qualifications.

Taking part in music and drama tuition offers many benefits beyond the classroom, including developing communication, confidence, creativity, memory, teamwork and coordination, while encouraging students to take risks and remain engaged in their learning.

Students can also work towards Bronze, Silver and Gold medals, as well as gaining qualifications that can contribute to their UCAS points and support future university applications.

We strongly encourage students to take advantage of these fantastic opportunities and begin their tuition journey as early as possible.

For more information, please click here: **Tuition Booklet**

To arrange tuition during school hours, please contact our Performing Arts Administrator, Miss Mallach, at **tuition@kshsonline.uk**.

Newsies Jr. Auditions

On Tuesday afternoon (15th September), our budding stars took to the stage to audition for this year's school production, *Newsies Jr.* The Drama Studio was buzzing with talent and enthusiasm as students auditioned for ensemble and main roles, with many performing their own renditions of 'Seize the Day'.

With so much talent on display, Mr Coates and Miss Daniel certainly have a tough job ahead selecting the cast!

A huge well done to everyone who auditioned!

There is still time to get involved! If your child is interested in taking part in the production but did not attend the auditions, places are still available. Please encourage them to speak to Mr Coates or Miss Daniel to find out more.

Keep your eyes peeled for the cast announcement coming soon!

Extra-curricular Clubs

This term, we are delighted to offer a fantastic range of extra-curricular clubs and activities for students to enjoy during lunchtime and after school. These clubs provide students with opportunities to try something new, develop their skills, pursue their interests and spend time with friends outside of the classroom.

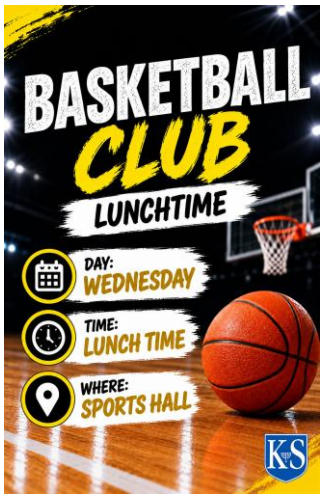
There is a wide variety of activities on offer, so we encourage students to get involved and make the most of the opportunities available to them. Whether they enjoy sport, creativity, performance or other activities, there is something for everyone.

Please be aware that after-school clubs require students to sign up in advance via the 'My Child at School' app. Places may be limited, so we encourage families to check the app regularly and book a place where required.

Watch this space for more exciting club announcements coming soon! We look forward to seeing lots of students getting involved and making the most of the opportunities on offer this term.

Sports Clubs

Club	Day	Time	Location
Football Club	Monday	3:20pm - 4:20pm	School Field
Netball Club	Monday	3:20pm - 4:20pm	Outdoor Courts
Basketball Club	Wednesday	Lunchtime | 1:35pm - 2:15pm	Sports Hall
Girls Football Club	Thursday	3:20pm - 4:20pm	School Field



'Flete East London

We are pleased to share an exciting opportunity for young athletes in our local community through 'Flete East London.

'Flete is a programme designed to support young athletes aged 11–18, helping them develop their sporting ability alongside the skills and qualities they need to thrive as individuals.

The programme takes a whole-person approach, recognising that developing a successful athlete is about more than just sporting performance. Depending on their level within the programme, athletes can access different types of support to help them develop, progress and reach their potential.

Flete aims to create greater opportunities for talented young people in East London, supporting them on their sporting journey while also focusing on their wider personal development.

Find out more: Please scan the QR code on the flyer or visit: 'Flete East London

SEND Club